

I received another letter from the Ad Hoc Committee for the Organization of Romanian Democracy, Inc. That letter, dated July 15, 1996, points out shortcomings in the property restitution and compensation process in Romania, and talks about developments in a human rights case.

In that regard, it states, "To further emphasize the injustices of the present Romanian regime, we wish also to inform you that we have just received a fax from Romania informing us about two newspapermen, Radu Mazare, Chief Editor and Constantin Cumpăna, Chief of Section, of the Telegraph, from the city of Constanta, who have just been sentenced for slander to 7 months in prison and a fine of 25 million lei (approx. \$8000)."

Their letter continues, "In view of the above injustices, the Committee appeals to you, Senator D'AMATO, to consent to urging the postponement, until after the Romanian Presidential-Parliamentary elections in September-October 1996, of debates and voting in respect to the granting of permanent MFN status to Romania."

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania's letter and the Ad Hoc Committee's letter be printed in the RECORD at the end of my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. D'AMATO. Let me continue by pointing out some other problems in Romania. Rights of national minorities to receive an education in their native languages have been restricted by the Romanian education law of July 24, 1995, and the government has not supported the opening of an independent Hungarian university.

An ethnic Hungarian, Pal Cseresznyes, remains in jail on questionable charges, an imprisonment that has lasted for 6 years and during which he allegedly suffered frequent beatings.

I am concerned by reports that the local elections revealed serious inaccuracies in voter lists, a problem that had been identified by international observers in previous elections and that the government has had time to repair. Those same inaccurate lists appear to be going to be used this fall. Use of those lists could call into question public trust in the results of the national election.

Mr. President, I regret that this measure has moved forward with such speed. I note that it was not referred to committee. Its consideration now coincides with the visit to the United States of the Romanian Foreign Minister, Mr. Teodor Melescanu. It appears that part of the rush to judgment this effort reflects is to produce a victory on this issue for the President of Romania, Ion Iliescu. Regardless of the protestations of parliamentarians and Romanian officials to the contrary, I firmly expect that passage of this

measure will immediately be touted as a great victory for Romania.

I hope that it will not, in fact, be a defeat for human rights, democracy, and free enterprise in Romania. I will watch the results of this election closely, and I join with those who support this bill in hoping that their results will justify the faith passage of this measure represents. I have, however, found that hope, when dealing with entrenched Balkan issues, is seldom well rewarded.

I will be watching to see who is in the resulting coalition government and what policies they adopt. While passage of this bill will end the MFN review process, inclusion of Romania in NATO will require additional steps. Without the MFN review process leverage, if the elections produce negative results, the consequences in terms of U.S. policy will have to be more severe.

#### EXHIBIT 1

AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF ROMANIAN DEMOCRACY, INC.,

Mount Vernon, NY, July 15, 1996.

Hon. ALFONSO D'AMATO,  
U.S. Senate, HSOB, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR D'AMATO: At the request of the owners of the properties nationalized-confiscated by decrees in 1949, we are forwarding to you the English translation of the memorandum addressed to President Iliescu of Romania and submitted and registered at the office of the President. The signatory is Mrs. Alexandrina Ionescu, Strada Franceza No. 56, Bucharest 3.

The gist of the memorandum, condensed in a few sentences, is as follows: By sentence of Lower Courts of Justice, Mrs. Ionescu and other owners obtained the restitution of property. They complied with all the prescribed legal requirements by paying the taxes and registering the legal deeds of property with the appropriate authority. Nevertheless, the Attorney General has started proceedings to annul the decisions of the Lower Courts.

The attached memorandum, translated into English and French, has also been submitted to the United Nations and the Council of Europe.

To further emphasize the injustices of the present Romanian regime, we wish to also inform you that we have just received a fax from Romania informing us about two newspapermen, Radu Mazare, Chief Editor and Constantin Cumpăna, Chief of Section, of the Telegraph, from the city of Constanta, who have just been sentenced for slander to seven months in prison and a fine of 25 million lei (approx. \$8000).

In view of the above injustices, the Committee appeals to you, Senator D'Amato, to consent to urging the postponement, until after the Romanian presidential-Parliamentary elections in September-October 1996, of debates and voting in respect to the granting of permanent MFN status to Romania.

We thank you, Senator D'Amato, for your consideration and understanding of the Romanian people who desire true democracy in their country.

Very truly yours,

STEFAN ISSARESCU, M.D.,  
Chairman.

SIMONE M. VRABIESCU KLECKNER, J.D.,  
Co-Chairman.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be deemed read the third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table,

and that any statements relating to the bill be placed at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3161) was deemed read the third time, and passed.

#### ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JULY 22, 1996

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until the hour of 10 a.m. on Monday, July 22; further, that following the prayer, the Journal of the proceedings be deemed approved to date, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, and the time for the 2 leaders be reserved for their use later in day; I further ask unanimous consent that at 10 a.m. the Senate resume consideration of the reconciliation bill under the previous order agreed to last night.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. LOTT. For the information of all Senators, on Monday there will be 4 hours of debate on the reconciliation bill for Members to offer and debate all remaining amendments as provided under the unanimous consent agreement. Following that debate I ask unanimous consent that the Senate turn to the consideration of the agriculture appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, when the Senate turns to the agriculture appropriations bill it will be the majority leader's intention to stack any rollcall votes on amendments and hopefully final passage over until Tuesday, following the previously ordered stacked series which will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday. Therefore, rollcall votes will not occur during Monday's session of the Senate. But Senators that are intending to offer amendments or raise points of order with respect to the reconciliation bill or the agriculture appropriations bill must do so on Monday.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M., MONDAY, JULY 22, 1996

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that the Senate now stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:51 p.m. adjourned until Monday, July 22, 1996, at 10 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate July 19, 1996:

##### THE JUDICIARY

JEFFREY T. MILLER, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA VICE GORDON THOMPSON, JR., RETIRED.